

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 015769

47

ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

EB-07 COME-00 /034 R

DRAFTED BY OASD/ISA:CDR JGRUNAWALT;PM/ISO:RMASSON:DME

APPROVED BY PM/ISO:GCHURCHILL

EUR/SE:J.DAY

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R 220342Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

INFO OASD/ISA/FMRA WASHDC

CSAF/XOXXI/PRM/RDPE WASHDC

HQ MAC/SCOTT AFB IL/XPPD

HQ AWS/SCOTT AFB

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 015769

SCOTT AFB ALSO FOR DOSP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, GR

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT SITE SURVEYS IN GREECE

1. THE AIR FORCE AIR WEATHER SERVICE (AWS) IS DEVELOPING THE SOLAR ELECTRO-OPTICAL NETWORK (SEON) TO REPLACE THE EXISTING SPACE ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT SYSTEM (SESS) WHICH IS A NETWORK OF SOLAR OBSERVING FACILITIES THAT PROVIDE 24-HOUR/DAY OPTICAL AND RADIO MONITORING OF THE SUN. TO INSURE CONTINUOUS 24 HOUR SOLAR COVERAGE, THE NETWORK PROVIDES AN OVERLA TO OFFSET WEATHER IMPACTS ON THE OPTICAL PORTIONS. THE SEON IS BEING DEVELOPED TO REPLACE THE SESS NETWORK DUE TO THE LIMITED CAPABILITY AND NONSTANDARDIZED TELESCOPES OF THE LATTER. THE INCREASED CAPABILITY OF THE SEON WILL PROVIDE IMPROVED SUPPORT OF DOD COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEMS, PLUS DETECTION AND WARNING

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PAGE 02 STATE 015769

SYSTEMS. IT WILL CONSIST OF TWO INDEPENDENT NETWORKS OF

STANDARDIZED TELESCOPE SYSTEMS: THE SOLAR OBSERVING OPTICAL NETWORK (SOON) AND THE RADIO SOLAR TELESCOPE NETWORK (RSTN). INDIVIDUAL SYSTEMS OF THE SOON AND RSTN WILL BE COLLOCATED WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

2. THE SOON WILL CONSIST OF A NETWORK OF OPTICAL TELESCOPES SPACED AROUND THE WORLD FOR CONTINUOUS MONITORING OF SOLAR ACTIVITY. EACH SYSTEM WILL OBJECTIVELY MEASURE AND

AUTOMATICALLY TRANSMIT SOLAR FLARE INFORMATION AND PROVIDE DATA FOR USE IN ANALYZING AND FORECASTING SOLAR EVENTS. INDIVIDUAL INSTALLATIONS WILL REQUIRE A SPECIALLY DESIGNED BUILDING 25 FEET WIDE, 50 FEET LONG AND 15 FEET HIGH. THE TELESCOPE, WHEN IN OPERATION, EXTENDS TO A MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF 25 FEET ABOVE GROUND LEVEL.

3. THE RSTN WILL CONSIST OF THREE STANDARDIZED RADIO TELESCOPES FOR MONITORING SOLAR ACTIVITY IN THE RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM. EACH SYSTEM WILL BE CAPABLE OF MONITORING EIGHT DISCRETE FREQUENCIES (245, 410, 606, 1415, 2695, 4995, 8800 AND 15400 MHZ) AND A SWEEP FREQUENCY SYSTEM MONITORING 24-48 MHZ. AN AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING CAPABILITY IS BEING CONSIDERED TO ALLOW FOR AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION AND TRANSMISSION OF SIGNIFICANT SOLAR RADIO BURST DATA. THE INSTALLATION INCLUDES THREE PARABOLIC ANTENNAS WITHIN 200 FEET OF THE RADIO BUILDING AND TWO BICONE ANTENNAS ORIENTED PERPENDICULAR TO THE PARABOLIC ANTENNAS AND 950 FEET APART. THE PARABOLIC ANTENNAS ARE 28, 8 AND 3 FEET IN DIAMETER AND, WHEN ON MOUNTS, EXTEND ABOVE THE GROUND TO 38, 14 AND 10 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND. THE REMAINING PORTION OF THE RADIO EQUIPMENT REQUIRES 1600 SQUARE FEET OF FLOOR SPACE.

4. PRESENTLY AWS OPERATES AN OPTICAL AND RADIO OBSERVATORY AT ATHENS, GREECE, AND A SOLAR OBSERVATORY (OPTICAL ONLY) IN TERERAN, IRAN. THE PROPOSED SOON/RSTN SYSTEM WHICH IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR POSSIBLE LOCATION IN GREECE WOULD REPLACE THESE OPERATIONS. AS WITH THE CURRENT OPERATIONS, NO CLASSIFIED ACTIVITIES WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 015769

INVOLVED AND THE DATA OBTAINED COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO HOST COUNTRY AGENCIES.

5. THE PROPOSED SURVEY WOULD BE CONDUCTED BY TWO TEAMS, THE FIRST WOULD BE COMPRISED OF FOUR DOD CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES AND ONE AIR FORCE OFFICER. THIS PRELIMINARY SURVEY TEAM WOULD EVALUATE THE PROPOSED SITES FOR AVAILABILITY OF REAL ESTATE, TOPOGRAPHY, CLIMATOLOGY,

SUPPORTABILITY, ACCESSABILITY, UTILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION SUITABILITY. THE FOLLOW-ON SURVEY TEAM WOULD EVALUATE THE LOCAL ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERFERENCE AT THOSE SITES WHICH MEET PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS. THIS TEAM WOULD CONSIST OF THREE DOD CIVILIANS. ALL MEMBERS OF BOTH TEAMS WOULD BE U.S. CITIZENS.

6. ELECTROMAGNETIC INVESTIGATIVE EQUIPMENT LISTED BELOW WOULD BE USED BY THE FOLLOW-ON TEAM. TOTAL WEIGHT AND VOLUME OF THE EQUIPMENT WOULD BE 4,000 POUNDS AND 800

CUBIC FEET. WITHOUT THE TRAILER, WHICH IS NOT REQUIRED IF OTHER TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE, THE WEIGHT AND VOLUME WOULD BE 1,000 POUNDS AND 50 CUBIC FEET.

NOMENCLATURE ---- TYPE ----- NUMBER

INSTRUMENT TRAILER TRM-24 ----- 1 EACH

NOISE AND FIELD -- STODDART-SINGER, -- 2 EACH
INTENSITY METER -- NM-37/57,
----- 30-100 MHZ

NOISE AND FIELD -- STODDART-SINGER, -- 2 EACH
INTENSITY METER -- NM-65T, 1-10 GHZ

NOISE AND FIELD -- STODDART-SINGER, -- 2 EACH
INTENSITY METER -- NM 17-27, 14 KHZ -
----- 30 MHZ

NOMENCLATURE ---- TYPE ----- NUMBER

SPECTRUM ANALYZER, HEWLETT-PACKARD, -- 1 EACH
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PAGE 04 STATE 015769

TUNING AND TRACKING W/141T DISPLAY,
PLUG-IN SECTIONS --- 855 X 844X

X-Y RECORDER --- HEWLETT-PACKARD, -- 1 EACH
----- 70-35B

STRIP CHART ---- VARIAN, G-22 ----- 1 EACH
RECORDER

NOTE: MISCELLANEOUS FILTERS, ANTENNAS AND PREAMPLIFIERS WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR THE LISTED EQUIPMENT.

7. THE PRESENT AWS SOLAR OBSERVATORY IN ATHENS HAS BEEN OPERATED IN CLOSE HARMONY WITH THE NATIONAL OBSERVATORY OF ATHENS (NOA). ASSISTANCE FROM THE NOA OFFICIALS WOULD

BE VALUABLE IN LOCATING A SUITABLE SITE FOR THIS PROJECT. UPON GOG APPROVAL OF THE SURVEY IN PRINCIPAL, IT IS CONTEMPLATED THAT THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF OPERATING LOCATION C, 2ND WEATHER WING WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE NOA TO SOLICIT AID AND SUPPORT. IT IS ULTIMATELY INTENDED THAT THE SURVEY TEAM WOULD BE ALLOWED TO INVESTIGATE OTHER SITES WHICH THE NOA MIGHT SUGGEST.

8. SITES PROPOSED AND PLANNED DATES FOR SURVEY ARE:

----- PRELIMINARY TEAM FOLLOW-ON TEAM

PEDELLI HILL, GREECE 2-3 FEB 76 --- 1-10 MAR 76
ATHENS, GREECE --- 4-6 FEB 76 --- 1-10 MAR 76
IRAKLION AS, GREECE 9-11 FEB 76 --- 1-10 MAR 76
SOUDA BAY, CRETE -- 11-13 FEB 76 --- 1-10 MAR 76

ADDITIONALLY, IT IS PROPOSED THAT SITES RECOMMENDED BY NOA (PARA 7) BE SURVEYED AS APPROPRIATE. THE FOLLOW-ON TEAM WOULD SURVEY ONLY LOCATIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE PRELIMINARY TEAM.

9. THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY WOULD BE RELEASABLE TO THE GOG. LOCAL OFFICIALS WOULD BE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEYS. THE PROPOSED INSTALLATIONS WOULD INSURE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 015769

CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF OBSERVATION DATA TO THE HOST NATION FROM MORE CAPABLE AND IMPROVED EQUIPMENT. ALL PROJECT DATA WOULD BE RELEASABLE TO THE HOST NATION.

10. PROVIDED NO OBJECTION IS PERCEIVED TO PRESENTATION OF THIS PROPOSAL WHILE BASE NEGOTIATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK GOG APPROVAL FOR THE PROPOSED SURVEYS INCLUDING DIRECT CONTACT WITH NOA, INTRODUCTION AND REMOVAL OF THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT AND THE VISIT AND COMPLETION OF SURVEYS BY THE PRELIMINARY AND FOLLOW-ON TEAM. SPECIFIC TRAVEL CLEARANCES WOULD BE OBTAINED BY THE OPERATING AGENCY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WEATHER STATIONS, MONITORING FACILITIES, SOLAR FLARES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE015769
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CDR JGRUNAWALT;PM/ISO:RMASSON:DME
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760024-0827
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760131/aaaabayv.tel
Line Count: 215
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT SITE SURVEYS IN GREECE
TAGS: MARR, GR, US
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006